



# S.A. Presidential Election



**MICHAEL DUNN**

Activity on Campus has reached an all time low this year, and the Students' Association has begun to mean less and less. I believe that the ANUSA President must have some policy ideas for next year, without being inflexible, and a clear commitment to making as hard an effort as possible to counteract the elitist tendency of the Association if it is to survive. I still think it is necessary as an organization to promote action, represent students, and help organise grassroots action! But the era of "good management" is past; we have been well served by it, but at this stage we cannot afford to assume that sound administration will be enough. There must be real and genuine student participation if there is to be anything left to administer!

One area which does concern us all which has not received much student attention before is education, yet this seems to be one of the first points where we can unite and present OUR views. This means a lot of work at the "local" level, that of Liaison Committees, so that there can be an active voice of student opinion on the one hand, and adequate information on planned changes on the other. These Committees need a new lease of life. Informal working-groups should be encouraged as much as possible to provide ideas and action on specific problems. I think we should first aim to end exams as a compulsory form of assessment so we have a free choice.

This naturally requires the widest possible dissemination of ideas and information through the student media, Woroni, Radio ANU and National U. I will seek to provide regular information on the more formal affairs of the University - Council and the Administration. I undertake to represent all students on Council, and the University's various standing and ad hoc committees, in full co-operation with other student representatives. In particular, I would like to push forward plans for a 24 hour health service and a free dental clinic.

Yet in the midst of all this, I believe we must not lose sight of the need for students to be active in the process of social change outside ANU. We ought to assist where we can underprivileged or oppressed groups when they ask for help. At this time the President should

**VOTING** in these elections will be by ballot box at times and places in the Union, Halls and Libraries to be notified on all noticeboards. Watch them for the time best for your vote.

be open to new ideas and communicate with all students so the ANUSA can mean something. A hard, fresh look is needed at the Association and as many students as possible should be involved in it if we are to create a unity amongst part-timers, Hall residents day students and others. I hope that you will elect me as your President so that I can carry out this more than full-time job.

**Curriculum Vitae:**  
 AUS Secretary/Chairman 1973  
 Burton Hall Governing Body 1973  
 Liaison Committees: Pol. Sci. 1971,  
 History 1973  
 President ANU Historical Society 1973  
 President ANU Labour Club 1973,  
 Secretary 1973  
 SRC 1973 (while it existed)



**JOHN COLEMAN**

The present system of student representation of the ANUSA is inadequate. Students have not been attending meetings and a small minority of activists have controlled student politics over the past year. At a meeting of the Students Association on the 18th of September a further measure was endorsed removing student government from the student body. A small executive was to be empowered to initiate policy for the ANUSA since students Association meetings were unable to obtain the required quorum of 50.

The Students Representative Council of past years seemed to have tendencies toward bureaucracy however because SRC members were elected by the student body in annual election, the SRC system was far more representative of students than the present students Association meeting system, as the recent events clearly show. For this reason I propose the Students Representative Council be re-elected next year and the constitution of the ANUSA be amended accordingly.

With the Student Representative Council the President could be more controlled by the student body than under the present system, especially on seeking advice and help from SRC members between students meetings, which under present conditions leads to bureaucratic, of necessity, methods by the President. The committees elected by students at Students Association meetings could be included in the Students Representative Council system, giving students interested in issues which the SRC and President will definitely need more student participation in, more of a mass base among students.

However any movement for the abolition of the examination system must come from the student body. Already staff and students are working toward a more educational role for University courses. This concerns moves made in other Universities, such as the Womens Course at Sydney University, to exclude racist and sexist educational attitudes, the moves by Gays in Psychology faculties to have humans sexual preference

recognised as a choice and not unscientifically labelled as a perversion, the inclusion of Black studies in courses to exclude racist education and moves for social responsibility in Science especially after the French Nuclear testing so close to Australia. Lawyers moves toward the principle of equitable expense and abolition of anachronistic laws, such as those on abortion and homosexuality and economists examination of planned economics of full employment, socialisation and workers control. As a Socialist candidate for the presidency my main aims are more staff/student control of courses and assessment and university involvement and participation in the democratic movements and demands both in Australia and Internationally.



**GREG DRAKE**

Although hesitant to enter the hurdy-gurdy of student politics, I wish to confirm my candidature for SA President. I admit that I was somewhat surprised to find that I was a candidate, but I feel sure that whoever was responsible had the best interests of the majority of students at heart (or somewhere).

Having been the Geology Society President for the past year, I have a mine of experience in the intricacies of student politics. My policies are down-to-earth; if elected I will:

- i) declare the Union Bar an annex of the Geology Dept.
- ii) make the Students' Association a subsidiary of the Geology Society.
- iii) give rocks (free!) to all students, regardless of whether they want them.
- iv) resign.

Vote [0] Greg Drake - the rock-bottom candidate.



**ALAN MURRAY-JONES**

Because of the nature of the office of President, it is difficult to lay down specific policies. Issues arise unexpectedly and must be dealt with as they come to hand. I will therefore outline what I see as the main duties of the President and state how I feel I am qualified to handle them. As a result you should get



a picture of how I would handle various issues. Later I will mention some issues that I regard as important in 1974.

The first, and most important, duty of the President is to be a communicator. He must be able to listen to, and understand, students. As well the general membership of the Association must be kept informed of current developments. I believe that insufficient attention has been given to the latter in recent years. If elected it is my intention to remedy this through the use of 'Woroni', and through direct communication both formally at meetings and ad hoc through personal contacts. With luck the Association would have a better informed membership and will, in turn, be more responsive to the demands of its constituents.

In addition the President has some responsibility to initiate activity. However, experience has shown that this is best done by interested groups of students. The President must help such groups and ensure that their work is not wasted. I believe that I can do this.

For what they are worth here are some suggested issues that will involve students next year:

- 1) Education - this is an example of the trade-union activities of the Association. The President can have some influence in matters such as workloads, teacher evaluation, assessment procedure. However the best way of working at these lies in ensuring that the student body (and in particular liaison committee, F.E.C., and Faculty members) are well informed so that they can work in the different circumstances of the different Faculties.
- 2) Union, Administration, Cultural Affairs Committee - new personnel and ideas will demand a change in relations of the Association with these bodies. My experience in these areas will be an advantage here.
- 3) Association structure - the SRC abolition is a fact now. However if 'participatory democracy' is to work there will need to be changes. Flexibility is required.
- 4) Parking - whilst the plans for permits and fees in 1974 look like being dropped, rationing will still be necessary in the foreseeable future. Students must not be walked over.

**Curriculum Vitae:**  
 3rd Year Economics-Law student,  
 1972-3 Treasurer, Cultural Affairs Committee.  
 1972-3 President, Liberal Club.  
 1972-3 Business Manager, Radio ANU  
 1973 Finance Committee, ANUSA (now Trustee)  
 Member, Clubs & Societies Committee (Director at one stage).  
 Union Board of Management.



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# CULTURE ON CAMPUS

## Introduction

With the Arts Centre to be or not to be, there is an urgent need for those interested in cultural activity at ANU to look at the direction it is taking, the priorities for the rapidly diminishing resources of energy and money and the appropriate organization to carry this out.

A group of interested people, Graig Clayton, Allan Murray-Jones and myself, have drawn up the following paper in an attempt to set down our views on the above questions. We would very much like to get student — and University — reaction to it before we present it to the ANU Students' Association's Cultural Affairs Committee for discussion on Monday, 8 October.

Interested people are welcome to attend the CAC meeting and details will be published in Bullsheet. However, we are interested in having your comments before then so that the paper can be amended, modified or expanded where desirable.

Richard Refshauge,  
President, ANUSA

## Principles

1. The primary aim of cultural administration on campus should be the provision of opportunities for students to participate in cultural activity, develop their talents and, particularly, exercise cultural skills they would not otherwise have tried.
2. However, due emphasis should be placed on opportunities for those who wish to appreciate rather than participate in cultural activity.
3. Participation and appreciation in the university environment must involve both the teaching and acquisition of skill, understanding and discrimination.
4. Like the political activity of the Students' Association, the cultural activity cannot be narrowly directed to students alone, but will inevitably draw and involve all members of the university and even of the community.

## The role of the clubs

5. We recognise that activity will inevitably and desirably be centred around specific clubs and societies involved in particular branches of the arts.
6. However, it is desirable that these clubs see their role in the above context and provide opportunity for development and encourage involvement by newcomers to the arts.
7. We recognise that there is no easy direct comparison between differing branches of the arts. However, in determining financial assistance to clubs, account must be taken of both the degree of self-help and member support, and also the number of participants involved.
8. Since the money granted to clubs is students or public money, there is a responsibility to account for it. This should be supervised by the cultural administration to whom proper accounts and club cheque books should be presented annually.

## Entrepreneurial activity

9. Two levels of entrepreneurial activity must be considered: presentations by professional artists either from Canberra or elsewhere, and presentations by members of ANU.
10. While supporting and encouraging presentations by members of ANU, we see this as best organised by clubs, with special financial assistance where necessary. This must be seen as an adjunct to rather than a replacement of the teaching and learning activities of the clubs and societies.

11. Professional performances are essential for the proper development of cultural understanding and discrimination.
12. However, we acknowledge that Canberra is increasingly well-served by visiting companies performing downtown.
13. Therefore, professional presentations on campus should be limited to those which have a special interest to the university population and which are unlikely to be otherwise presented by commercial or governmental entrepreneurs.
14. Special efforts should be made to ensure a balanced programme throughout the year.

## The arts centre

15. We see the Arts Centre and its Board of Management as a cultural facility on campus and not as an alternative cultural administration. As such it will be essential to the programme we have outlined, balancing participation in and appreciation of both campus and professional cultural activity.
16. We also hope that the gulf between on-campus and off-campus activity will be usefully bridged by the existence and use of the Centre.

17. However, it must primarily remain available for maximum use by the university population and in particular the student activity should have priority. Students are on campus for a comparatively short time and hence need some advantage if every opportunity is to be open for their involvement.
18. The campus population will be deterred from usage by high charges and the university must accept the role of patron, underwriting the Centre's finances to such a level as will encourage the realization of our aims.

19. Obviously management will be the responsibility of all sections of the university and students must have a reasonable voice in it.

## Alternative Cultural Complex

20. Unless the Arts Centre is built by 1976, an alternative cultural complex must be developed, possibly using the cultural capital fund set aside from the Students' Association annual subscription.
21. The Childers Street Hall and associated buildings are the main cultural venue on campus. The facilities are presently less than adequate, for the heavy and increasing demands placed upon them. However, it could be satisfactorily developed as an acceptable cultural complex.
22. The Kingsley Street Hall could also be satisfactorily converted into such a complex and since it is a more permanent building we believe it should be investigated to determine whether this is feasible.
23. Naturally expansion of either premises would be dependent upon a security of tenure for a minimum of ten years and the Students Association would be loathe to embark upon any such programme without it.
24. In the event of the Arts Centre not being commenced in this triennium (1973-1975), the Students' Association should reconsider the extent to which it is prepared to contribute to the Development Fund and rather fund its cultural levy for improvements to the Childers Street complex, Kingsley Street Hall or similar cultural facility.

## Summer Schools

25. Summer Schools would be a desirable element in the cultural programme at ANU.
26. However, the size of Canberra, the non-resident University population and the available finance make them impractical at this stage.
27. The growth of Canberra and the university, the completion of the Arts Centre or the development of another cultural facility and the employment of a full-time cultural officer would be pre-requisites for this development.
28. We understand that organisations such as the Arts Council of Australia (ACT Division) are investigating the possibility of organising Summer Schools in Canberra and we would support their efforts.

## Arts policy

29. The federal budgetary allocation of \$15m to the Australian Council for the Arts has given the Government a central place in determining cultural policy in Australia. As in other areas the Association must play its part in helping to determine the most appropriate policy for Canberra and Australia.

## Full-time cultural officer

30. A comparison with other tertiary institutions of a size comparable to that of the ANU revealed that most of them, and some with smaller populations, employed full-time cultural or activities officers. We believe that it is reasonable for ANU to seriously consider the employment of such an officer in the near future.
31. We recognise that there is a danger of depressing the level of activity by such an appointment, but believe that if the right person is carefully chosen for the position it is justified at this time.
32. The history of the student organisations at ANU suggests strongly that the appointment would be more appropriate to the Students' Association through its cultural administration than to the University Union.
33. The appointee would primarily be an administrator providing the necessary bureaucratic support for currently precarious or endangered activities. Such a person, however, could also assist with the communication area of the Association's activity.

34. If such an appointment were made soon, the Creative Arts Group's workshops would be greatly strengthened and could be expanded, especially to maximise the use of their facilities.

35. In return for some contribution to the officer's salary, the Union may agree to delegate responsibility for the organisation of its Art Exhibition and Debates to such an officer.

## National student cultural affairs

36. The link between Aquarius and ANU Students' Association should be through the cultural administration.
37. Contact with Aquarius occurs mainly over campus tours which, because of their national student orientation, would not be subject to our misgivings about the need for saleable professional concerts on campus.
38. We believe it would be desirable if Aquarius could assist ANU by holding summer schools in Canberra, perhaps as part of a national rotation of school venues.

39. The cultural administration must remain aware of the positive advantages provided by Aquarius through its source of contacts and cultural information, the student contact it can facilitate and its involvement in inter-university affairs.
40. The Association must play its part in the formation of Aquarius policy for it is only by such involvement that Aquarius can be a viable organisation.
41. Participation by ANU groups in inter-university activities is to be encouraged though any subsidy to this end must take account of the personal benefit gained by those involved.

## C.A.C.

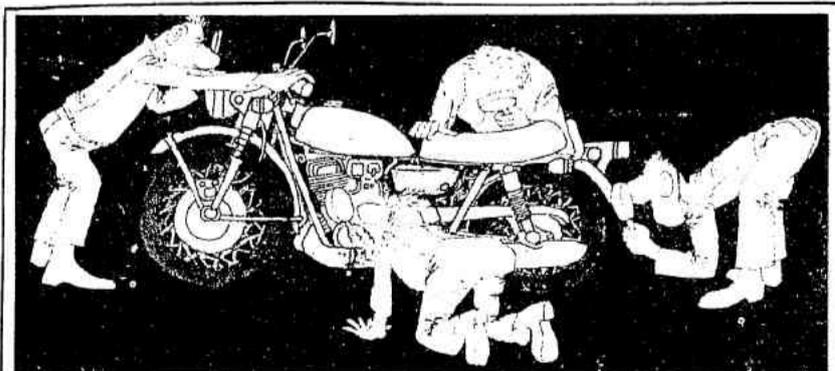
42. As can be seen from the discussion in this paper so far, much of the cultural activity we would wish to encourage at ANU implies a cultural administration. For better or for worse, the Cultural Affairs Committee is this administration.
43. Although there are many permutations of structure that would be appropriate, we see no substantial reason to suggest any alteration in its present constitution or relation to the Students' Association.
44. Since most of the funds for cultural activity on campus come in lump sum, CAC must act, as an allocative body and this is probably its major function.
45. However, there are other realistic functions which CAC should perform:
  - (i) it should be a resource centre for contacts, information and techniques;
  - (ii) it should maintain or obtain administrative resources such as for typing, duplicating, telephoning;
  - (iii) it has and should maintain formal contacts with the university administration and could develop them with the ACT Committee for Cultural Development and the Australian Council for the Arts;
  - (iv) it can undertake certain entrepreneurial activities where these are inappropriate to or not undertaken by clubs, including perhaps the organization of block booking by arrangement;
  - (v) it should provide liaison with national student bodies like AUS and Aquarius and advise the Students' Association and the University on student cultural policy.
46. The most significant limitation to CAC undertaking these functions is a lack of adequate manpower. This should not deter it, however, from attempting them, or as many of them as possible.
47. In this context continuity of service is important and the recently introduced compulsory first-year representation should be continued.
48. One method that should be seriously considered for coping with the manpower problem is the allocation of specific responsibilities, such as those outlined in paragraph 45 above, to specific members of the committee.
49. At this stage there seems no point in altering the current operation of the House Committee though its status as a sub-committee of CAC and not merely an affiliated club should involve it in being more closely tied within the financial affairs of CAC.
50. A complete review of the operations of the House Committee should be undertaken when either the Arts Centre is completed or an expansion of the Childers Street complex is undertaken.



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